

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 17-20 have been added. Claims 1, 3, 5, 10, 12-14 and 17 are independent. Claims 5-14 and 16 have been withdrawn.

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner has placed a formal restriction requirement against the claims of the captioned application, as the Examiner considers the application to contain two separate and distinct inventions, directed to:

Group I: Claims 1-4 and 15, and

Group II: Claims 5-14 and 16.

The applicants hereby elect Group I, with traverse. If the subcombination is found to be allowable, it is respectfully requested that the combination be rejoined. Further, claims 17-20 are added to present the combination more generically. Support for these claims may be found, for example, in paragraph [0071] of the original specification.

If the Examiner believes that additional discussions or information might advance the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to expedite resolution of any outstanding issues.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early and favorable action on the merits is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

LEE & MORSE, P.C.

Date: May 14, 2007


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PETITION and DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CHARGE AUTHORIZATION



This document and any concurrently filed papers are believed to be timely. Should any extension of the term be required, applicant hereby petitions the Director for such extension and requests that any applicable petition fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

If fee payment is enclosed, this amount is believed to be correct. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

Any additional fee(s) necessary to effect the proper and timely filing of the accompanying-papers may also be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.